

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As illustrated in Figs. 1 and 12, a thrombus suction catheter of the present invention is a tube having a distal end opening 12 formed by an angled cut surface. In the distal end opening 12, at least a part 161 on the proximal end side of the cut surface 16 is formed in a concave shape in the angled direction, and the ~~distal end side 162~~ distal end side 163, 164 of the cut surface 16 is formed to be flat and flexible and to neck down at its tip 162. With this distal end configuration, suction and crossing are significantly improved.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~The flat portion 162 on the distal end side of the cut surface 16 is a means~~ The portions 163, 164 on the distal end side of the cut surface comprise means for enhancing the crossing as well as the flexibility of a catheter distal end and ~~includes~~ include a lumen 15 for a guide wire.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The lumen 11 is a path for a thrombus aspirated from the distal end opening 12, and the thrombus is collected in a thrombus collection bottle (5 in Fig. 7) through the lumen 11. The distal end side of the thrombus suction catheter is provided with guide wire lumen 15 that is opened at the distal end 162 of the catheter. Generally, a guide wire insertion port 13 is provided at a position of 2 to 50 cm from the distal end, preferably 25 to 35 cm from the distal end. Furthermore, the thrombus suction catheter is provided with a reinforcement wire lumen 17 so as to improve the ability (referred to as "pushability") of transmitting a force propelling the catheter to the distal end. A reinforcement wire 3 formed of, for example, stainless steel is embedded in the reinforcement wire lumen 17. The reinforcement wire lumen 17 extends from the proximal end of the catheter body 1 to a position of about 10 to 11 cm on the distal end side, beyond the position of the guide wire insertion port 13, and is shifted at the position of the guide wire insertion port 13 with a diameter thereof being narrowed (see Figs. 4, 5, and 6). The reinforcement wire 3 has its distal end side

tapered from the guide wire insertion port 13 in accordance with the diameter of the reinforcement wire lumen 17.